

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

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CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, JO, US, XF

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR KING

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. PLEASE SEEK EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF KING AND PRIME
MINISTER ON RABIN TALKS IN WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

A. AS HIS MAJESTY AND RIFAI KNOW FROM THEIR TALKS IN
WASHINGTON, WE ARE TAKING FUNDAMENTAL LOOK AT QUESTION
OF HOW NEGOTIATING PROGRESS CAN BE REGENERATED FOLLOWING
SUSPENSION OF MARCH NEGOTIATIONS. WE PROCEED FROM DETER-
MINATION THAT PROLONGED STALEMATE IS UNACCEPTABLE; QUESTION
IS HOW, NOT WHETHER STALEMATE CAN BE AVOIDED.

B. THE BASIC OPTIONS ARE THOSE WE DISCUSSED WITH HIS
MAJESTY; EITHER REVIVAL OF STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH, IN FIRST
INSTANCE THROUGH NEW EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI INTERIM AGREEMENT IN
SINAI, OR MOVE DIRECTLY TO NEGOTIATIONS ON OVERALL SETTLE-
MENT AND PREPARATIONS FOR EARLIER GENEVA CONFERENCE THAN
WOULD BE NECESSARY IF FURTHER SINAI AGREEMENT ACHIEVED.

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C. FOLLOWING ON MEETINGS WITH HIS MAJESTY IN WASHINGTON

AND SALZBURG TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, PURPOSE OF RABIN

VISIT WAS TO REFINE OUR JUDGMENT OF WHAT IS AND IS NOT POSSIBLE AS WE APPROACH CONCLUSION OF OUR POLICY REASSESSMENT.

D. IT WAS NOT OUR INTENTION TO REACH ANY DECISIONS DURING RABIN VISIT. THUS THERE IS NO CONCRETE OUTCOME TO REPORT, EITHER ON AID TO ISRAEL OR ON THE FUTURE COURSE OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. WITH RABIN, AS WITH SADAT, WE REVIEWED IN DEPTH PRESENT SITUATION AND COURSES OF ACTION OPEN IN MOVING PEACE NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD.

E. IN REGARD TO THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS, WE WENT OVER IN DETAIL POSITIONS AT CONCLUSION OF MARCH NEGOTIATIONS TO SEE WHETHER THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY FOR MODIFICATION OF THOSE POSITIONS WHICH WOULD PERMIT NEGOTIATIONS TO BE REVIVED. WE BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN EVOLUTION IN THE THINKING OF BOTH SIDES, BUT WE ARE NOT YET AT A STAGE TO JUDGE WHETHER AN INTERIM AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE. FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WILL BE NECESSARY WITH BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL BEFORE WE CAN MAKE A DEFINITIVE JUDGMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, YOU SHOULD INFORM KING AND RIFAI FOR THEIR OWN INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE ASKED AMBASSADOR EILTS TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY SO WE CAN BRING HIM UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST TALKS, AFTER WHICH HE WILL RETURN TO CAIRO TO CONTINUE OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT.

F. IN REGARD TO NEGOTIATION OF AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT, THE CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN RECONVENING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE HAVE BEEN REVIEWED, BUT AGAIN FURTHER THOUGHT AND CONSULTATIONS ON ALL SIDES WILL BE NECESSARY. WE AGREE WITH HIS MAJESTY ABOUT PITFALLS AND COMPLICATIONS OF MOVING DIRECTLY TO GENEVA AND DISCUSSED THESE IN DETAIL WITH RABIN. WE WILL CONTINUE TO EXPLORE INTENSIVELY PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE OF FIRST ACHIEVING NEW SINAI AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO MAKE GENEVA MORE MANAGEABLE, BUT I MUST EMPHASIZE IN SPIRIT OF FRANK RELATIONS BETWEEN US THAT SUC-

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CESS OF THIS EFFORT IS STILL PROBLEMATICAL.

2. PLEASE ALSO THANK KING AND RIFAI FOR THEIR VIEWS ON HOW WE SHOULD DEAL WITH FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM WHEN HE IS IN WASHINGTON. AS IN MARCH, WE PLAN TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON WHAT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO MOVE ISRAELI-SYRIAN NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD AND ASSURE HIM WE WILL DO OUR BEST.

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